*[Translation]*

**Rajiv Environment Project**

3703. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY :
SHRI SHIV RAJ SINGH :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the sailent features of the Rajiv Environment Project;

(b) the names of the districts selected under the said project from each State and funds allocated for the purpose; and

(c) the time by which the project is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) to (c) The thrust of Rajiv Environment Project is to ensure that all the ongoing schemes of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, environment related schemes and programmes of other Central Ministries and State Governments are implemented in a coordinated and intensive manner so as to create a visible impact within a time span of five years. The list of the districts selected under the Project is given in enclosed statement. Separate funds have not been allocated so far under the project.

***Statement***

*Statewise List of 50 Districts Selected for Environment & Eco-Development Programme*

| Sl.No. | State | No. of Districts | Districts |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 3 | East Godawari, Chittoor and Vishakhapatnam |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 1 | Dibang Valley |
| 3. | Assam | 1 | North Cachar |
| 4. | Bihar | 3 | Singhbum, Dhanbad and Hazaribagh |
| 5. | Gujarat | 3 | Junagarh, Panchmahal and Valsad |
| 6. | Goa | 1 | North Goa |
| 7. | Haryana | 1 | Ambala |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 3 | Kangra, Chamba and Kullu |
| 9. | Jammu & Kashmir | 1 | Udhampur |
| 10. | Karnataka | 3 | Bellary, Kolar and Hassan |
| 11. | Kerala | 2 | Palaghat, Mallapuram |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 4 | Jabalpur, Shahdol, Chindwara, Jhabua |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 2 | Jalgaon and Yeotmal |
| 14. | Meghalaya | 1 | West Khasi Hills |
| 15. | Mizoram | 1 | Aizwal |
| 16. | Manipur | 1 | Imphal |
| 17. | Nagaland | 1 | Kohima |
| 18. | Orissa | 2 | Ganjam and Kalahandi |
| 19. | Punjab | 1 | Gurdaspur |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 20 | Rajasthan | 4 | Dungarpur, Jodhpur, Udaipur and Jhalawar |
| 21. | Sikkim | 1 | North Sikkim |
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | 3 | Madurai, North Arcot and Nilgiri |
| 23 | Tripura | 1 | North District |
| 24 | Uttar Pradesh | 4 | Almora, Jhansi, Mirzapur and Raibareilly |
| 25. | West Bengal | 2 | Purulia and Bankura |
| | | 50 | |

**Welfare Scheme for Minorities**

3704. SHRI D.P. YADAV : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any scheme is being implemented in Uttar Pradesh for the welfare of minorities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have monitored these programmes;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the amount spent on these programmes in the year 1996-97; and

(f) the amount likely to be sanctioned for the year 1997-98?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Following schemes are being implemented all over the country including State of U.P.

(i) Pre-examination coaching scheme for weaker sections based on economic criteria is being implemented all over the country since 1992-93 for the target group consisting of minorities and OBCs with an income ceiling of Rs. 24,000/- per annum.

(ii) The National Minorities Development & Finance Corporation was established in Sept., 94 with an authorised share capital of Rs. 500 crores out of which Union Govt.'s share comes to Rs. 125 crores. The Corporation provides financial assistance to the backward sections among minorities whose annual family income is below double the poverty line, which at present rate works out to Rs. 22,000/- p.a. for setting up of self-employment ventures at concessional rates of interest. The NMDFC implements its schemes through the State Channelising Agencies all over the country.

(iii) The scheme of multi-sectoral development plan was launched during 1995-96 in the 41 minority concentration districts located throughout the country for the purpose of identification of the economic activities conspicuously pursued by the minorities including women with a view to assess the requirements of credit, technological training and marketing support required for carrying out such activities and the means through which they can be arranged. This scheme is implemented through the concerned State Govts.

(iv) Area intensive programme for educationally backward minorities: The scheme was introduced in 1993-94 with the objective to provide basic educational and infrastructural facilities in area of concentration of educationally Backward minorities who do not have adequate provision for elementary education. Out of the VIII Plan Allocation of Rs. 16.27 crore, an amount of Rs. 8.97 crore has been spent under the Scheme.

(v) Modernization of Madrasas and Maktab : The scheme is meant to provide opportunities to the students of the Madrasas and Maktabs to acquire education comparable to that of the National Education System by providing financial assistance with the objective of introducing additional subjects like Science, Mathematics, English etc. An amount of Rs. 1.72 crore was incurred on the schemes against the VIIIth Plan allocation of Rs. 1.00 crore.